CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE

Digest

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STORIES IN LIGHT

YOU'RE TELLING ME

I ALWAYS bypass the sports pages, but ever since Joe Louis, the Brown Bomber, announced he was going to fight again, I scan the sports pages every day, to read all about preparations for the big fight, at the Yankee Stadium, New York, Sept. 27th, when Joe Louis and Ezzard Charles will fight for a $500,000 purse.

This appears to be a great deal of money for fourteen or fifteen rounds (or may be less) of boxing. I cannot talk very much about it, because I am such an amateur in the field of boxing and other sports that if I talk long enough I am certain to say the wrong thing.

Alliance is releasing the Life Story of Joe Louis, which tells all about his life from the time he was a little boy, and how he commenced his boxing career. I looked at some of the training scenes in this picture, and I had to admit that, whether or not we call champion boxers 'sluggers', there is a certain precision, technique and artistic skill in boxing which makes it interesting and exciting.

The picture to which I refer has some of the Brown Bomber's big fights, and reveals the period of time in his life when good-looking gals and cabarets were responsible for his losing the fight to Schmeling. When I opened my evening paper and read the Star staff reporter's account of Ezzard Charles' fight with Freddie Beshore, written by Joe Perlove, and which starts off with *"Come back, Joe Louis, all is forgiven. Moustache and all. Yeah, even the jowls. Even if you only step into the ring and wave a hand at the crowd. That ought to be enough to knock out all the heavyweights who are scrambling over the title you relinquished,"* I had a real thrill. Now, why should I become excited about a heavyweight champion?

I must confess, it was a showman's excitement over a good piece of publicity to help put a picture over at the boxoffice. Low-brow, perhaps, for the thrill and the excitement is 100 percent commercial; but once a showman, always a showman, to whom each picture is an adventure and the boxoffice takes on a rosy hue, not alone for the lucre which drops into the till, but for the exhilaration of seeing laughing, happy, expectant people crowd the lobby of a theatre intent on enjoying a show.

Making people happy is a great gift, and those who perform such a service are public-spirited citizens, irrespective of the fact that operating the business of Entertainment is a commercial enterprise.

And yet, how many of us in Show Business, how many of our patrons, ever pause to consider the miracle of our industry? A can of film, a projector, a screen, and before us people move and tell their story in movement and sound, telling it so interestingly that at times we cry at what we see and hear, and at times we laugh so heartily that our laughter is carried out of the theatre.

It is good to think, to feel, to be moved by every day events, by what is happening in our own little world and the world about us. It is good for us as Show Folks to be interested in all the progress which our Industry has made and to feel a pride in such achievement.

As I glance through my trade papers, I read, "Warners Are Saying It with Pictures And Not With Slogans." That is a good slogan, if I may remind Warner Bros. I turn the pages of the Warner Bros. announcement and I read, Flame and The Arrow; it has a ringing sound and I consider it a good picture title. I read further and there is Pretty Baby; that has a pretty sound, with Dennis Morgan, Betsy Drake, and Edmund Gwenn, and here I pause to say to myself, "Edmund Gwenn, I like him, a fine artist."

Further on, James Cagney in Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye, another effective title, and then I become reminiscent and my mind goes back to the many successful pictures James Cagney made with Warner Bros. and the first thing you know, I am singing, "I'm A Yankee Doodle Dandy," and it does not seem so long ago.

For October, I read in the Warner Bros. announcement, Glass Menagerie, which gives me a thrill, because it was such a fine and successful play. Glass Menagerie, with that very excellent artist, Jane Wyman, Kirk Douglas, and one of my very best favorites, Gertrude Lawrence — here I pause again and think of Noel Coward and that wonderful evening in London, when he and Gertrude Lawrence appeared in a series of playlets, The Family Album, Red Peppers, Tonight at 8:30, and The Astonished Heart.

In London, in the pre-World War II years, and up drove a very swanky car and out came the former Prince of Wales, (now the Duke of Windsor) and I stood beside him, as he smiled, and I was so astonished that I forgot to curtsey. This was something for me, for in those days I was very good at curtseying, and never forgot my manners. This too, seems as if it all happened yesterday.

Gertrude Lawrence, what a woman and what a fine artist. Remember when she came to the "Big Do" of the Canadian Picture Pioneers at the Royal York and gave out the prizes to the lucky ticket-holders? Came after her evening's performance at the Royal Alexandra, came looking very radiant in her black velvet gown, meeting everyone with such a graciousness, and with all the charm of a real Showoman?

Excuse me, if I address a few words to Haskell Masters, who will be asking me, at Child's Table, why I do not stick to the point, and talk about Warner Bros. pictures, to which I reply, so everyone can hear, "This is not a Warner Bros. editorial. Remember, I started off talking about Joe Louis

(Continued on Page 11)

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Views and Reviews

JACKIE ROSS

With the plans announced to select the best of the four shows which have been presented at the Red Barn Theatre this season and arrange them into a review to tour Canada, activities up at Jackson's Point this summer become of considerable interest to showmen across Canada.

This year's company, The Barnstormers, represent the second attempt to establish the Point as a Straw Hat focal point . . . and a highly successful one. Leaving the straight drama to those who like it, Messrs. Brian Doherty and Roy Wolvin have established the house as a revue showcase. This season, they have preesnted a series of four revues, with Canadian-written material and music starring young Canadian actors. The results have been a pleasure, not only for audiences but also for the gentlemen who run the boxoffice. The venture has proven to be both an artistic and financial success, a happy combination, all too rare in any area of showbusiness.

All the shows, except one, have had as their star Montreal's John Pratt, well-known to Canadians as the star of the wartime Navy Show. Pratt is the restrained or relaxed-type comic who manages to wander in and out of a revue format with perfect ease and without making the audience continuously and uncomfortably aware of his presence. To some extent this effect is enhanced by the layout of these productions which stays away from the star system and gives all the talented young performers in the cast the chance to register.

Oddly enough, the most effective performers are the men in the cast, a rather unusual situation in the legitimate field where the ratio of aspiring young actresses to available man-power seems always to be at least 2 to 1. Although not all equally professional, each of the boys in the cast has come up, through the season, with at least one good single and, in groups, they are mildly sensational. **However, the most outstanding young man by far is Don Wolvin,** a brother of the co-producer. He displays a capacity to handle an audience and a certain slickness of manner which, coupled with the youthful enthusiasm common to all members of the cast, make him a standout. In fact, if we were a talent scout, we'd spot Mr. Wolvin as a guy to keep an eye on, for, together with all his other attributes, he happens to have that indefinable something in looks and personality that has the teenagers up at the Point swooning.

On the distaff side, Miss Barbara Hamilton, who toured with Mr. Doherty's production of The Drunkard and later with Arsenic and Old Lace, shows remarkable development and promise.

In type, she bears an amazing resemblance to Carol Channing who is drawing the Broadway customers like flys in the current production of Gentlemen Prefer Blonds. She has the same mobile face and semi-awkward gestures that spell out the ultimate travesty of femeninity as it is usually regarded. We can remember Miss Hamilton in the Harthouse productions when she was a student at the University of Toronto not so long ago and it is a credit to Mr. Doherty that he has developed her talent to this promising stage.

Of course, for that matter, most of the credit for the success of the group goes to Mr. Doherty and his colleague, Roy Wolvin. Wolvin's material is, by and large, very good and his songs (which comprise the large part of the music in the show) are top-flight. The direction of the show is credited to the Wolvins and Henry Caplan, who has made a name for himself in the straight legit field in Ontario. Two of these young men gained their experience in revue productions through college shows and this quality is plainly evident in the zip, sparkle and just plain youth that has characterized these Red Barn productions.

With all due respect to these charming young people, one is forced to conclude, however, that the biggest vote of approval should go to Brian Doherty. Mr. Doherty has managed to maintain a faith in young Canadian talent and in the capacity of the Canadian public to appreciate it which may easily have been daunted in a lesser spirit. That's the quality people mean when they talk about the heart of showbusiness. With vaudeville proving to be a success in American movie-houses, it should be reassuring to Canadian exhibitors to know that, when the time comes to draw upon a reserve of Canadian legit talent, a few people like Brian Doherty have been building it up right here in our own backyard.

TRADE HEADLINES

Jerry Wald-Norman Krasna productions unit set for RKO, Howard Hughes announces. Wald and Krasna to make 10 or 12 Class A pictures for RKO each year.

●

Business Week Magazine Aug. 12 has feature story, Who Bought United Artists? Business Week doesn't know.

●

The Famous Barrymore Family by Lionel Barrymore featured in Saturday Evening Post, Aug. 19. Excellent writing and material.

●

Universal-Interntional's Louisa sets 8-year box-office record in world premiere Chicago Theatre. Grosses $50,000 first three days.

●

Attorneys for Howard Hughes and Harry Brandt complete contracts for proposed Trans-Lux-Howard shares deal.

●

Ned Depinet advises President Truman, United States Compo ready for war service.

●

Sir Laurence Olivier arrives from London for starring role with Jennifer Jones in Paramount's Carrie Ames — director, William Wyler.

●

The Damarais of Montreal have taken over lease of La Scala theatre, Montreal, for French and Italian language pictures.

●

New York Foreign Language Press gives Darryl Zanuck award for No Way Out, 20th-Fox picture.

●

State Department asks U.S. Congress for $13,500,000 film budget within framework of Voice of America Truth Campaign.

●

Spyros Skouras introduces plan for scheduled shows on All About Eve, new 20th-Fox release — must see picture from beginning — tickets sold in advance.

●

Paramount Pictures six-month profit $2,826,000.

●

Arthur Mayer becomes COMPO's Executive Vice-President — was formerly associated with Burnstyn foreign language pictures.

MEDIATHEQUE Guy-L.-Coté Page 3 12 SEP. 2014

RAY PRESENTS

I REGRET to report the death of Thomas Pringle, a Life Member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, who in 1914 started in our Show Business for himself, in Goderich, Ont. Tom was operating the Ideal Theatre, Toronto, at the time of his death and no more cheery exhibitor could one meet around the film exchanges. Tom was enjoying what we call "a ripe old age" and therefore, when we heard that he had not been feeling well for the past six months, we thought that the years were beginning to mark him, but felt that with his cheery disposition, he would make a comeback. When news reached us last Monday that Tom would no longer greet us, that Death had suddenly come to him at his home, we all felt that this Industry had lost a good friend.

The pall-bearers were members of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, at the request of Tom's son, Verne, who felt that Tom would like to have his Pioneer pals with him on his funeral journey.

Funeral services were held in the Funeral Parlors and a number of members of our Industry attended the services. There were many floral tributes of remembrance, but perhaps one floral display which revealed the character of Good Tom better than any tribute which I could give his memory, came from the patrons of his little theatre, who remembered him as an exhibitor of motion pictures who had served them, the public.

His wife, Pearl Pennington, pre-deceased him. There are two sons, Melvin and Verne, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy. Burial was at Prospect Cemetary, Toronto.

I shall miss hearing Tom say, "Well, how are you today, Ray?" To which I would reply, "Fine, Tom, how are you?" and Tom would invariably reply, "I can't complain." Tom was just a small-time exhibitor, but a gentle person and a gentleman. I hope they treat him Over There with the same consideration as he treated everyone here.

I HOPE that you did not miss the letter which we published from Denmark, requesting a copy of the Digest, No. 28, Vol. 41, 1948, which the Danish Library requested to complete their file for binding in a volume, for the Danish Film Museum.

Now, you will understand why we must be careful of our Publicity which means so much in respect to Good Public Relations. No one knows in what country we may be quoted, and how far what we have to say may travel.

We found an extra copy of the Digest as requested and sent it on to Denmark, and, incidentally, we felt as if we had received a decoration, because Denmark is one of our favorite countries, famous not only for Danish pastry, but Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, and who has not heard of Danish butter, eggs, and Copenhagen porcelain, the latter which is chaste in design, color and with a glaze which even Old China might have envied.

Mr. Jerry Campbell of Drive-In fame telephoned The Digest to draw our attention to a story in the Aug. 12th issue, which states that a Drive-In Bingo, "probably the first of its kind in Canada, will be held August 15th at the Auto-Sky Theatre on the Prescott Highway."

Mr. Campbell states that his Drive-In at Guelph has been having Bingo for some time.

LARRY DRUXERMAN, who was formerly associated with Empire-Universal at Toronto, and later moved to the Universal-International Montreal office in charge of French- language pictures, will join the staff of SARO at Toronto, as Toronto Branch manager. His previous position was as Montreal Branch Manager for Astral Films, but he comes to SARO fully acquainted with the product which SARO is distributing, having been in charge of the Quebec and Maritime territories for Selznick Releasing Organization prior to his Astral association. Larry and his very attractive young wife will be a welcome addition to the film colony in Toronto. He is a nephew of Alex Adilman, who, with Arthur Hirsch, operates an important circuit of theatres, Consolidated, in Montreal, affiliates of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

Larry has inherited some of the likeable qualities of the famous Alex, and the older that Larry grows the more he looks like his unique and famous uncle.

I was not going to say anything about Larry Druxerman as yet, but a little bird told me that Hye Bossin was in "the know" and perish the thought that my clever colleague should "scoop" me.

I SAW a very interesting and well-made Short feature subject, on the Pioneers of the Land of Israel, well-narrated, well-photographed and most revealing. It was produced in Israel, and I doubt if it could have been done as well in Hollywood. Here you will find glimpses of the Old World and the New World, a baby nation among the nations of the world, but already showing the promise of a glorious Manhood.

Gina Lollobrigida, in whom it is said RKO is interested having brought her from Rome to Hollywood, is a Dr. Albert Giacalone of Itala Films, discovery. I met this most attractive young lady at the Locarno International Festival in Switzerland last year. She is one of the new faces in Italian pictures, having previously appeared in some Italian short subjects prior to her important casting in Pagliacci. She has beauty, fire and a great deal of talent.

The comparison with Jane Russell, as reported in the Hollywood Reporter, may be the result of a close-up, but there is nothing wrong with my eyesight, and I talked to Gina Lollobrigida several times, and while she may have what Jane Russell has, she has not as much of them. So here's your Tat for Tit, that is here's your Tit for Tat, Herb Stein of the Hollywood Reporter.

Toronto and District

BILL PRESS

CHIEF Barker Morris Stein of the Toronto Variety Tent announced at a meeting of the organization that his predecessor in office, J. J. Fitzgibbons, would be the toastmaster for the citation dinner of the club which will be held Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Royal York Hotel.

First Assistant Chief Barker J. J. Chisholm has arranged for the concert hall for the great function at which the chief award of International Variety will be presented by Marc Wolf of Indianapolis. The dinner will be a black-tie affair with a guest list of 500.

The special committee in charge of the event consists of F. C. Dillon of the Distributors Association as chairman with Arch H. Jolley serving in the capacity of vice-chairman, and the following members: Norman Robertson, K. C., O. J. Silverthorne, Mr. Walter Murdoch of the Muscians' Protective Association, Larry Graburn, James Cowan and Clare Appel.

All International officers of Variety are being invited to attend the banquet along with many other distinguished personages.

* * *

Following six weeks of Rocketship X-M, the Towne Cinema, Toronto, turned to Private Angelo as its next attraction.

Meanwhile the International Cinema continued with its lengthy Summer Film Festival with good result in the hot weather.

* * *

Al Sedgwick put on a whole show for a Saturday matinee at the Palace in St. Catharines. In addition to three features he gave out fanfotos of Bill Boyd, one of the screen pictures being FOOL'S GOLD, a Hopalong Cassidy film.

The Monogram Studio is preparing to produce a Canadian feature to be called THE OTTAWA STORY which will have an R.C.M.P. theme.

Max King is still giving attention to the making of a picture in the Dominion which would also deal with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

At the same time, 20th Century-Fox Corp. is preparing a script to feature Dana Andrews in a Canadian Mounted picture which may not be produced until next year.

The last feature with a Canadian plot in which Dana Andrews appeared in a star role was THE IRON CURTAIN which of course was based on the Soviet spy case.

* * *

More than the usual number of features were given adult grading in July by the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors. The new list included Convicted, The Great Jewel Robber, Great Plane Robbery, Amored Car Robbery, On Approval, Frightened City, Private Angelo and Outrage.

* * *

Past President Dick Main of the MPTA of Ontario is apparently not happy unless he is helping somebody, even the opposition. He was the publicity director for the Sutton Horse show and Fair which is really competition for his Simcoe Theatre at Sutton. Earlier he helped the Red Barn Players to get ready at nearby Jackson's Point.

* * *

The Cornwall Drive-In which was recently opened in Eastern Ontario, is the second of the auto theatres in Ontario to be used regularly for Sunday night church services.

The first of the drive-in churches was the one at Britannia which is being operated on weekday nights by 20th Century Theatres.

Name Ungar's Successor

Joseph Schoenfield, with the William Morris office for the past six years, will succeed Arthur Ungar, deceased, as editor of Daily Variety. Schoenfeld was with the weekly Variety for 11 years before joining the Morris agency.

Ruling on 16 mm. Drive-Ins

16 M.M. DRIVE-INS MUST INstall a speaker in every car, according to the ruling of the Ontario Theatre Inspection Branch. This regulation is now being enforced and in future no license will be issued to 16 m.m. drive-ins unless provision is made to install individual speakers in all cars. As 16 m.m. equipment is not capable of carrying the load of a large number of speakers, this regulation will discourage the opening of 16 m.m. drive-ins.

Censors to Meet

A meeting of Canadian motion picture censors and those from USA states which border Canada will be held in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on October 2, 3 and 4. Purpose of the meeting, the first of its kind, is to discuss common problems of censorship.

Of special interest is the question of motion pictures being shown on television. Canadian censors, seeing films televised across the line into their provinces, are worried because many of these offer scenes which have been deleted by them from the picture before it was approved for theatre exhibition.

Host of the censors will be the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch of the Provincial Treasury, of which O. J. Silverthorne is chairman.

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WILL McLAUGHLIN.....Ottawa, Ont.
BILL PRESS.....Toronto, Ont.

The jackjot totalled $980 for the joint Fotonite offer of the 14 independent neighborhood theatres of Toronto in the first week of August.

In the matter of cash the co-operative theatre stunt on Tuesday and Wednesday nights is exceeding most of the money awards of the Toronto Evening Telegram for its jigsaw contest.

* * *

A really unfortunate accident occured at the Capitol Theatre, Listowel, when the 50-year-old cashier, Mrs. Weston, fell 12 feet down the iron stairs to the cement floor, suffering head injuries from which she died in hospital.

The lady was carrying her supply of admission tickets as she prepared for the opening of the matinee performance when she tripped on the stairs.

Miss Peggy Francis is the manager of the Listowel theatre and she was great concerned over the sad death.

2 Cast in Up Front

Tom Ewell, former Broadway stage star, has been signed to a long term contract by Universal - International and has been given the co-starring role with David Wayne in "Up Front" as his first assignment.

Ewell will portray "Willie and Wayne will play "Joe," Bill Mauldin's two famous wartime cartoon characters, in the picture.

All Safety Film By End of 1951

DURING 1951, ALL PRESENT nitrate prints will be taken out of circulation, and replaced with film of acetate base, according to a recent announcement by O. J. Silverthorne, Chairman, Ontario Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch. The new film is non-explosive and slow burning and has been perfected after many years of experimentation. Until the new film is used exclusively, more stringent inspections of booths and theatre buildings are being carried out by provincial theatre inspectors.

Wald-Krasna Sign $50 Million Deal With RKO—60 Pictures in 5 Years

The producing team of Jerry Wald and Norman Krasna made Hollywood history last weekend.

At midnight last Saturday they reached agreement with Howard Hughes in what was described as the biggest independent production deal ever made in the film industry. The pact called for Mr. Wald and Mr. Krasna to produce for RKO 60 pictures in the next five years, 12 each year, and involving an investment of $50,000,000.

Mr. Wald and Mr. Krasna, backed by the Bankers Trust and Mellon National Bank of Pittsburg, will supply 60 percent of the money with RKO furnishing 40 percent. The profits will be split on a 50-50 basis—half to Wald-Krasna and half to RKO.

The agreement was reached after eight weeks of negotiations among Mr. Hughes, Mr. Wald and Mr. Krasna, and followed months of reports and rumors which were climaxed by Mr. Hughes advancing $150,000 to buy out Mr. Wald's contract with Warner Bros. However, Mr. Wald's departure from the Warner studio did not finalize his deal with Mr. Hughes.

A compromise finally was reached at the deadline set by the participants, and it was agreed the Wald-Krasna company would have absolute independence on all films budgeted under $90,000. Over that amount, the producers would have to consult with Mr. Hughes on story properties. The agreement also provides for the new compay — to be known as Wald-Krasna Productions, Inc. — to use all RKO production facilities which include the main studio, the RKO-Pathe plant at Culver City, and the RKO ranch at Encino.

The first nine of the 60 feature pictures have already been announced by Jerry Wald and Norman Krasna.

The first eight projects are originals by Wald and Krasna: "Stars and Stripes"—the history of the USO — Jolson is already interested in the idea of playing himself; "Size 12" — the story of a dress model with a background of the dress designing industry. The script is now being prepared by Jerome Weidman, author of "I Can Get It For You Wholesale."

"Behave Yourself"—a new angle on the teenagers. Max Shulman will probably do the script; "Easy Going,, — Danny Kaye is interested in starring in this; "Country Club" — a commentary on the social scene in America; "The Strong Arm" — a modern crime story; "Call Out The Marines"—depicting the birth of the U.S. Marine Corps; "Mother Knows Best" — an original, tentatively titled, which may team Mae West and Jane Russell in sophisticated comedy; plus "The Harder They Fall"—a novel with a prize-fight background by Budd Schulberg.

JERRY WALD, at 39, is rated among the top examples of the Hollywood success story. His rise from the days as radio editor of the old NEW YORK GRAPHIC *is a favorite conversation topic in all show business circles. Mr. Krasna was drama editor on the* GRAPHIC *at about the same time.*

Mr. Wald started his motion picture career in true Horatio Alger fashion. He began with Warner Bros. as a junior writer 18 years ago and within a few years found himself one of the most important producers for the company. His long list of successes—including "Johnny Belinda," "Key Largo," "The Man Who Came to Dinner," "Task Force" and others — brought him the 1948 Irving Thalberg Memorial Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences "for the most consistent high quality of production achievement."

Rocketship Zooms

Mr. Harry A. Kaufman, of Cardinal Films Limited, reports that ROCKETSHIP XM is doing exceptionally big business wherever shown. There is a full page story in the Toronto Star Weekly of August 19th on Rocketships and features scenes from ROCKETSHIP XM and the sensational business it is doing in theatres. The week of August 21st, ROCKETSHIP XM plays the Bay Theatre, North Bay; Odeon Theatre, Kingston; Odeon Theatre, Sarnia; Capital Theatre, Niagara Falls; Park Theatre, Chatham, and Victory Theatre, Timmins.

NORMAN KRASNA, 49, entered the film industry at about the same time as Jerry Wald. Mr. Krasna, however, had left his drama editor's post on the NEW YORK GRAPHIC *to become a publicity writer for Warner Bros. His rise to the top was in many ways similar to that of Mr. Wald.*

While on the GRAPHIC, *Mr. Krasna was also a staff representative of* MOTION PICTURE HERALD. *Mr. Krasna left the publicity department to embark on a successful screen career as playwright, Screen Writer, producer and director. Among his films have been "John Loves Mary," "Dear Ruth," "Fury," "The Devil and Miss Jones," "The King and the Chorus Girl" and "The Big Hangover." In 1943, Mr. Krasna's career was climaxed with an Academy Award for the best original screenplay for "Princess O'-Rourke," which he also directed.*

Arthur Mayer Elected Compo Exec. V. P.

ARTHUR MAYO, who has been elected Executive Vice-President of COMPO, at a salary of $25,00 a year, holds the only salaried executive-post in this American all-industry Public Relations organization. He recently sold his partner-interest in the Mayer-Burstyn film importing enterprise to his partner.

In 1948-49, he was the owner of the Rialto Theatre, New York, and he was appointed chief of the Motion Picture Branch for the American Military Government in Germany.

Arthur Mayer is held in high regard by members of our Industry, and is considered a top man. His service to Motion Pictures, and to the U.S. government is considerable. During World War II, he was assistant coordinator of the Motion Picture War Activities Committee, was assistant to the chairman of American Red Cross, was field consultant to Secretary of War, Robert Patterson. He was decorated by President Truman with the Medal of Merit.

The Men Doubles Gross

Stanley Kramer's Current hit film, The Men, continues to roll up "doubled-up" grosses in its first coast-to-coast booking's with Salt Lake City's Centre Theatre the latest to rack up an opening two day gross 50 percent higher than either Home of the Brave or Champion, it was announced by United Artists.

The Men, co-starring Marlon Brando and Teresa Wright opened Tuesday and Wednesday to Body and Soul Boxoffice grosses, U. A.'s top-level hit of 1947, the industry's greatest year.

THE MOST POPULAR PICT

"AS AMERICAN AS ICE CREAM AND CAKE," says the New York Herald-Tribune

●

Samuel Goldwyn has reached into the heart of the American home to make you laugh—to make you cry a little—to make you live again *your happiest moments!* This is a picture filled not only with romantic magic and nostalgia, but with all the tender things, the daily excitements, the joyous wonder of life in America today!

AS HEDDA HOPPER SAYS: "IT'S THE KIND OF PICTURE AMERICA HAS BEEN SCREAMING FOR."

No wonder it's also the picture that's bringing joy and happiness to exhibitors everywhere!

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

URE IN AMERICA TODAY!

Ask the man who's playing

OUR VERY OWN

Starring **ANN BLYTH**
FARLEY GRANGER
JOAN EVANS
with **JANE WYATT**

Directed by DAVID MILLER
Written by F. HUGH HERBERT
Director of Photography: LEE GARMES, A. S. C.

Ask the people who've seen it!

Well-Known Scenic View from Paris

This type of view of Paris is familiar to tourists and thousands of others who never visited the city but have seen famous Paris scenes on postcards. Producer Betty Box brought it back—in film form—from her last trip. It's a scene from SO LONG AT THE FAIR. The picture itself has a sure-fire thriller story with Paris and the Paris exposition as its background. Most important, it also has Jean Simmons as one of its stars.

The J. Arthur Rank Organization Presents **SO LONG AT THE FAIR.** Stars Jean Simmons and Dirk (BLUE LAMP) Bogarde with David Tomlinson. Produced by Betty Box. Directed by Terence Fisher and Antony Darnborough. An Eagle-Lion Release.

Book it Now from EAGLE-LION

Vancouver News

JACK DROY

VERA KATHLEEN GOW, wife of Frank Gow, Famous Players' British Columbia Division manager, and mother of Frank Gow, Jr., Broadway Theatre manager, passed away after a lengthy illness at General Hospital in Vancouver. Mrs. Gow was 54.

* * *

On vacations are Eric Handley, Bill Gillespie, Eric Green, Ivan Ackery and William McCartney of the Orpheum; Charlie Doctor, Capitol; Wilf Crane and Fred Simmons, Vogue.

* * *

Vancouver became an air base for supplying U.S. troops to the Korean war this week as Canadian Pacific Airlines has turned over its northern Trans-Pacific fleet of North Stars to the United Nations forces. Planes will fly from Sea Island base near Vancouver. American uniforms are a common sight on Vancouver streets now.

* * *

The upper end of Vancouver Island will benefit from a $40,000,000 pulp mill being erected by the Canadian Western Lumber Co. at Campbell River. Four theatres, all owned by E. D. Bickle, two at Courtney, Cumberland and Campbell River should do extra business.

* * *

Yvonne de Carlo, Hollywood star visiting her native British Columbia, was given a tough press while in the province to appear at the Kamloops Stampede, and slapped a libel suit against the Vancouver Sun, asking for damages for alleged libel in a yarn by reporter Paul St. Pierre. The article was retracted by the Sun.

Court Issues Injunction Vs. Picketing Lulu

Interim injunction restraining members of B.C. Projectionists Union 348 from picketing the Lulu Theatre, Lulu Island, was issued by Mr. Justice Manson in Supreme Court. The injunction is the result of a one-man strike at the theatre. Picketline was set up Aug. 3 after the theatre's projectionist was no longer employed. The Lulu is owned by Peter Barnes of Toronto and the booth is now manned by J. McGee, who is the operator-manager. The union may apply to have the injunction set aside.

Word comes from Morris Crompton of Macleans that, starting with the issue of September 1st, that big, bad movie critic, Clyde Gilmour, otherwise kown as 'the exhibitor's friend' will take up office as Maclean's movie reviewer.

Despite what anyone in this industry may think about Mr. Gilmour's reviews, both in the Vancouver Sun and on the CBC, the fact remains that he has gathered quite a following throughout Canada which undoubtedly will be increased by his national circulation in Maclean's. Furthermore, to some extent, the appointment represents a victory for this business. Until now. Maclean's has refused to grant movies a sufficiently important place in the lives of their readers to be mentioned at all. And, as Curley Posen is fond of saying, "I don't care what they say as long as they keep talking about me."

Three theatremen on a recent visit to meet movie star, Gloria Swanson, in a personal appearance for the showing of Sunset Boulevard. The star could not make the Vancouver visit on her trip. So Paramount had the boys make the trip to Seattle. Left to right: Robert Murphy, Paramount Vancouver manager; Charlie Doctor, manager of Vancouver's Capitol Theatre; and Clyde Gilmour, Vancouver Sun and CBC movie critic.

THOMAS F. MORAN
New Odeon candy sales chief.

Appointment of Thomas F. Moran as head of candy-sale operations for Odeon has been announced by David Griesdorf, general manager. The appointment is effective immediately.

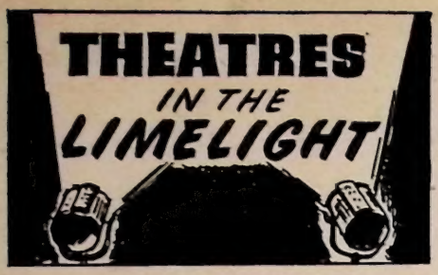
He has been with Theatre Confections Limited since 1948; becoming assistant general manager of that company early in 1950. Mr. Moran came to Canada in 1946 following wartime service with U.S. Army Intelligence in the Pacific. A graduate industrial engineer, he began his business career in that field with Western Electric and RCA Communications in New York. Later, as an authority on specialized merchandising, he served major retail organizations in the Manhattan area. He has had extensive Canadian experience in the development of candy and other similar sales through theatre outlets.

MGM Contract to Canadian Students

When the junior United Nations security council from Loyalty school, Huxley, Alta., returned home from a trip through Canada and the United States they found waiting for them a $5,000 movie contract from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios. Contract also gives their teacher, G. Fellowes, enough funds to finalize arrangements for a European tour.

Fellowes originated the idea of a miniature security council in which pupils would be delegates representing various countries of the world. He took the group this summer to eastern Canada, the White House and to Lake Success. At Lake Success they sat in the seats of the delegates to the U.N. Security council and debated their way through an issue.

M-G-M wants to make a film dramatization of the start of the Huxley group. Fellowes and four of the children will go to Hollywood to participate.



A drive-in theatre was recently opened two miles west of OWEN SOUND. The project covers a 10-acre field and the architects were Caplan and Sprachman of Toronto. The entire project from the purchase of the land through grading, installation of 325 microphones, erection of projection room and refreshment room, together with all electrical and plumbing facilities and erection of a high fence, represents an investment of approximately $50,000. The general contractor was William Holly of Durham.

Kenneth Waite is manager of the theatre; his brother Harvey is the treasurer; Douglas Warwick is vice-president and Robert Ball of Durham is secretary.

* * *

TILSONBURG'S new drive-in theatre, The Skylark, flickered into activity for the first time on the night of August 9, with the official opening planned for sometime later in the fall.

Manager - Projectionist.. Herbert McLuhan advertised the opening by bombarding the towns and villages in the district with leaflets from a plane. One in every five of the bills had a free pass pinned to it, said Mr. McLuhan.

The theatre, three miles east of Tilsonburg on the North Plank Road, was designed by Architect Bodley of Brantford, while Jack Weston of Tillsonburg was the engineer. The entire project was completed in record time under the direction of four young Tillsonburg business, men, Arthur W. Scott, Reginald Freeman, Wilmer Atkinson and Mr. McLuhan.

The theatre is equipped to handle about 450 cars and will eventually hold 500. It is equipped with individual speakers, the latest Ballantyne sound equipment and Simplex projectors and strong arc lamps. The screen is built with a steel frame, covered with asbestos flexboard facing and sheeted with aluminum. A refreshment concession is being operated in connection with the theatre, and a playground and other facilities for children are being planned.

* * *

The RED DEER, ALTA., regional planning board has approved plans for a drive-in to be built by A. E. Staniland, Edmonton, and Roy Chabillion, Wetaskiwin.

NFB Short Mentioned At Venice Film Festival

A Canadian film, CHILDREN'S CONCERT, has won honorable mention in the annual competition for documentaries on science and the arts at the Venice Film Festival this week.

Top honors were given two German-made films on sculpture and architecture and a United States film about music. An Italian film also won honorable mention.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT, produced and directed by Gudrun Parker of the National Film Board last year, shows how parents, teachers and musicians of Ottawa organized Saturday concerts to interest children in music. The musical background was written by Eldon Rathburn, New Bruswick-born NFB composer. Eugene Kash, conductor of the Ottawa Philharmonic and head of NFB's music department, plays a leading part in the film.

Note for the theatre manager: The second Monday in October — the 9th — has been set for Thanksgiving Day this year. This is one of the statutory holidays which is fixed each year by Order-in-Council.

Variety Football Tilt Today in Toronto

How does the greatest Argo team in history shape up as square-off time nears? What does that new 27,500-seat Varsity Stadium look like—after all the talk about it? The fans have a chance to find the answers to both questions at the same time, for Argos will play Sarnia Imperials today, Saturday, August 26, at 2:30 p.m. in a tune-up tussle at the new Varsity Stadium.

The Barker, symbol of the Variety Club will doff his silk topper and don a football helmet on that occasion, for the net proceeds are marked for Variety Village, the training school for handicapped children, which is supported by the local sports and theatrical community.

The Variety lads, who got a tough break when rain ruined the attendance at their annual baseball game, are sure Old Sol will make it up to them this time. Tthey need the money for their work—which is to see that handicapped kids learn crafts that will make them self-reliant, financially independent Canadians when they arrive at manhood. There'll be 24 of them when the fall term opens at the home-and-school which decorates the eastern fringe of the city at Scarboro.

The government has passed up the amusement tax and the ticket agencies aren't sticking on the usual service bite. You can get tickets at all the usual places, as well as Maple Leaf Gardens.

Le Saint-Denis s'avere le plus sompteux cinema de Montreal

Il y a quelques mois, le président de France Film, M. J. A. DeSève, avait déclaré aux journalistes: "Nous allons réparer le Saint-Denis." Sous ces mots laconiques, le dynaminque président a-t-il voulu cacher les éléments qui font la surprise générale aujourd'hui? Peut-être.

En effet "réparer" n'est pas le mot qui s'ompose. C'est une reconstruction totale, du sous-sol au plafond, qu'on a effectuée dans cette salle au cours de l'été, et le plus somptueux de Montréal.

L'architecte Jean-Julien Perreault et l'entrepreneur général Alphonce Gratton ont mené à bien un travail rapide. Ils ont parfaitement réussi.

D'abord la facade. Le dessin à arches d'autrefois a disparu pour être remplacé par une masse aux lignes droites. Granit, vitrolite aux belles colleurs, pierre à chaux, ces trois matériaux ont été utilisés avec art. Les magasins de l'ancienne entrée ont été démolis afin d'utiliser l'espace ainsi récupéré au bénéfice de la clientéle. On a abtenu ainsi un trés vaste foyer où se localisent les divers services d'hygiéne, salons et fumoirs, vestiaires. Le foyer est si vaste que désormais le public n'aura plus à faire queue à l'extérieur lorsqu'ily aura affluence. Le nombre des places a aussi été porté à 2,500 ce qui permettra à des foules considérables de voir les grands succés.

Le foyer est manumental. Le marbre d'Italie et les miroirs, le verre dépoli, le métal blanc, le plancher de terrazo accordent aux spacieuses dimensions de ce hall une somptuosité incomparable. Un escalier de bel élan permet l'accéss aux deux balcons. A l'étage des balcons, on a aussi aménage de nouveaux salons pour dames et fumoirs pour les messieurs.

De l'ancien auitorium, il ne reste plus rien. Le style de la décoration a été complètement refait dans le genre moderne le plus accepté, le plus récent. La salle a subi un nouveau traitement acoustique d'une perfection inimaginable. La vision est aussi sans reproche. L'éclairage de la salle s'opère par un jeu de jets lumineux et multicolores dont la densité est anciennes loges du coté afin d'établir un unique plancher, vaste cuvette à plan déclinant. Les nouveaux fauteuils sont mobiles du type "push-back."

Enfin comme autres innovations, disons que le Saint-Denis est doté d'un grand orgue de concert avec carillon actionné à l'électricité. Il y a aussi la climatisation, le dernier cri de la science. Le chauffage et la climatisation sont équilibrées et conditionnés par un dispositif de synchronisation. Une merveille de technique.

France-Film est fiére, et avec raison, de cette nouvelle salle. Le Saint-Denis continue le résau de ses salles modernes.

—J. P. Le Pailleur

CAPITAL STORY

By BILL McLAUGHLIN

BUSINESS away off in all spots during the annual Ottawa Exhibition Week closing today, August 26th. Thousands of visitors to the capitol every day but not help at the movie box-office. Men, women and children, they made direct for Lansdowne Park, leaving Ottawa a dead-looking town. With the possible exception of a few major spots like the Capitol, Odeon, Elgin and Regent theatres, movie houses might just as well have been shuttered during the teriffic opposition.

* * *

Added attractions with the World of Mirth Shows in the exhibition midway were Zorita, who started at the age of three years in Hal Roachs' Our Gang Comedies, and Ken Maynard, cowboy film star who did his stuff in Kiddieland, a big section of the midway set aside for the younger fry.

The Drive-In Theatre, operated by 20th Century Theatres at Britannia Heights, was broken into early the other morning, the thieves making off with $100 in cash and 300 packages of cigarettes from the manager's office and the refreshment stand. The break-in, discovered early Tuesday morning, was made by smashing locks on the doors. It is thought the burglary was the work of amateurs since no attempt was made to crack the theatre's safe in the boxoffice, although the manager's office had been ransacked and valuable records torn and destroyed. It was the first time an open-air movie theatre in this area had been given the works by thieves.

* * *

Frank Gallup, resident manager of the Centre Theatre for Donn B. Stapleton and recently returned from a well-earned holiday, is drawing up plans for the annual Summer whoopee party for members of the Managers' Association, their wives, children and friends. Scene of the picnic will be announced, together with the date, during a meeting of Frank's special committee of managers next week.

* * *

The Devil Also Dreams, now on the road previous to opening on New York's Broadway, drew a sell-out audience to the Capitol Theatre on the opening night of Exhibition Week, the only bright spot along the capital's Rialto that evening. Three film celebrities head the cast with Claire Luce and helped no little in drawing the folks into the Capitol. They were Francis Sullivan, Bela Lugosi and Richard Waring, each of whom received ovations from their admirers on making their first appearances.

Trans-Canada Showings

Use This Information As Your Guide on Release Dates

TORONTO

DOWNTOWN
Young Lovers (EL-Hollywood) and Golden Gloves Story (EL-Hollywood).
EGLINTON-VICTORIA
Jane Eyre (20th-Fox) and The Razor's Edge (20th-Fox).
IMPERIAL
Colt 45 (WB) Technicolor with Randolph Scott and Ruth Roman.
UPTOWN
Johnny Eager (MGM) with Robert Taylor and Lana Turner.
ODEON-CARLTON
Second Week. Rogues of Sherwood Forest (Col.) Technicolor with John Derek and Diana Lynn.
INTERNATIONAL CINEMA
Spectre Of A Rose (Rep.) and The Raiders (Astral).
TOWNE-CINEMA
Private Angelo (IFD)
UNIVESITY-NORTOWN
Sunset Boulevard (Para.) with William Holden and Gloria Swanson.
SHEA'S
Third Week. Our Very Own (RKO) with Anne Blyth and Farley Granger.
LOEW'S
Fourth Week. Annie Get Your Gun (MGM) Technicolor with Betty Hutton and Howard Keel.
HYLAND
A Run For Your Money (EL) with Alec Guinness and Donald Houston.

ST. JOHN

PARAMOUNT
The Happy Years (MGM) Technicolor with Dean Stockwell and Darryl Hickman.
CAPITOL
Cariboo Trail (20th-Fox) and The Spider (20th-Fox).
STRAND
Winchester '73 (UI) Technicolor with James Stewart and Shelley Winters.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
Woman on Pier 13 (RKO) with Laraine Day and Robert Ryan.
IMPERIAL
Colt .45 (WB) Technicolor with Randolph Scott and Ruth Roman.
LOEW'S
Second Week. Annie Get Your Gun (MGM) Technicolor with Betty Hutton and Howard Keel.
ORPHEUM
Third Week. So Young So Bad (UA) and Destination Murder (RKO).
PALACE
Our Very Own (RKO) with Ann Blyth and Farely Granger.
AVENUE
Bond Street (IFD) with Jean Kent and Roland Young.
SNOWDEN-OUTREMENT
Outside The Wall (UI) and Rugged O'Riordans.
PRINCESS
Wagonmaster (RKO) with Ben Johnson and Joanne Dru.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
Crisis (MGM) with Cary Grant and Jose Ferrer.
GAIETY
Perfect Strangers (WB) wth Ginger Rogers and Dennis Morgan.
LYCEUM
Wagonmaster (RKO) with Ben Johnson and Joanne Dru.
MET
Duchess of Idaho (MGM) Technicolor with Esther Williams and Van Johnson.
ODEON
One Way Street (UI) with James Mason and Marta Toren.
GRAND
Barricade (WB) and Armored Car Robbery (RKO).

CALGARY

CAPITOL
My Friend Irma Goes West (Para.) with John Lund and Corinne Calvet.
PALACE
Cariboo Trail (20th-Fox) and The Bullfighters.
GRAND
Comache Territory (UI) Technicolor with Maureen O'Hara and MacDonald Carey.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
Second Week. Annie Get Your Gun (MGM) Technicolor with Betty Hutton and Howard Keel.
PLAZA-FRAZER
Johnny Holiday (UA) and The Rocking Horse Winner (EL).
ORPHEUM
Mystery Street (MGM) with Ricardo Montalban and Sally Forest.
STRAND
A Lady Without Passport (MGM) with Hedy Lamaar and John Hodiak.
VOGUE
Second Week. Winchester '73 (EU) with James Stewart and Shelley Winters.
STUDIO
Second Week. The Lady Vanishes (Astral) with Margaret Lockwood and Michael Redgrave.
PARADISE
Second Week. Bob and Sally (IFD).

You're Telling Me

(Continued from Page 1)

and boxing, but since I have a roving eye and a roving mind, I started to cover a little more territory and lo and behold, there was Warner Bros."

Another Warner Bros. coming picture is Dallas, with Gary Cooper, Ruth Roman and Steve Cochrane, plus color by Technicolor.

Captain Horatio Hornblower, there is a title for you, and again color by Technicolor, with another favorite star, Gregory Peck and Virginia Mayo, directed by a favorite director, Raoul Walsh.

There are a number of other fine pictures mentioned, some with a musical swing, some which bring the sombreros into play, like Dallas, and Breakthrough, which brings war home to us. Looking over the list of players we see new faces with the names of well-known stars, a policy adopted by Warner Bros. as a result of exhibitors' suggestions.

But lest anyone is of the opinion that I have been diverted from my original purpose of talking about Joe Louis, may I please remind them, that I may not be "the last of the red-hot mamas," like Sophie Tucker, but I am just as persistent as Sophie is in my belief that There's No Business Like Show Business.

If Joe Louis is to show the world that he is still The Champion in the world of boxing, it looks like a big show to me at the Yankee Stadium on Sept. 27th and I hope that he reads this unsolicited plug, that Alliance also reads, and is aware that this is not a slight but rather a weighty punch for The Story of Joe Louis in a motion picture. What is that I heard you, my gentle reader, say? "You're telling me?" I'm telling you.

—The Editor

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